

USSN. 10/501,084
 Examiner: CHANG, AUDREY Y
 Group A.U.: 2872
 December 14, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

1-13 (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A security element of the hologram type for preventing counterfeiting and falsification for documents in general, comprising

a layer of holographic material whereon a hologram can be defined; and

an optional protective layer; and

a monochrome background layer, said layer of holographic material being associated with coupled to a said monochrome background layer, an adhesive layer for connecting the security element to a document in general being further provided, further comprising, on said background layer, regions that are chromatically different from said background layer and are visually detectable.

15. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 14, wherein said background layer is constituted by a first metallization layer.

16. (Currently amended) The security element according to claim 14, wherein said chromatically different regions are provided aligned in register with an hologram provided by means of defined in said holographic material.

17. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 16, wherein said chromatically different regions are superimposed on said hologram.

18. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 15, further comprising demetallization regions on said first metallization layer.

19. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 15, said demetallization regions are provided at least at said chromatically different regions.

20. (Currently amended) The security element according to claim 15, wherein said background layer is constituted by a second metallization layer, said chromatically different regions being provided on said second metallization layer, a first demetallization layer being provided under said second metallization layer which has first demetallization regions located at least partially at said chromatically different regions.

21. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 20, wherein

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said first and second metallization layers are both made of aluminum.

22. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 20, wherein said first and second metallization layers have mutually different thicknesses.

23. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 20, wherein said first and second metallization layers have the same thickness.

24. (Currently amended) The security element according to claim 14, further comprising an external metallization layer on which said monochromatic background layer, constituted by an intermediate metallization layer, is interposed, said intermediate layer being made of a different material with respect to said external metallization layer, intermediate demetallization regions being provided on said intermediate metallization layer, said regions forming, by overlapping said external metallization layer, said chromatically different regions with respect to the background monochromatic layer that is constituted by said intermediate metallization layer.

25. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 24, comprising external demetallization regions provided at least partially at said intermediate demetallization regions.

26. (Previously added) The security element according to claim 14, characterized in that it comprises a layer of protective lacquer between said adhesive layer and said security element.